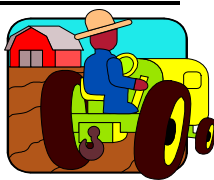




USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY BULLETIN



Leavenworth-Wyandotte
County FSA Office
2050 Spruce St
Leavenworth, Kansas 66048
913-682-1085
Fax 913-682-7886

May, 2006
Office hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm

RICK ABEL
COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Atchison County
FSA Office
605 6th Street
Effingham, KS 66023
913-833-5460
Fax 913-833-5070

County Committee Meetings: Leavenworth-Wyandotte – 2nd Wednesday of each month; Atchison – 2nd Friday of each month

FSA DEADLINES APPROACH

DCP Enrollment: June 1st is the deadline to obtain all signatures on a timely filed contract to participate in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Payment program. Signatures received after June 1 and through September 30th will result in assessment of \$100 per farm for late-filed fees. After September 30th, the option to participate for 2006 is no longer available. Remember that this is a contract that must be signed every year. The fact that you may have signed this contract for 2005, does not meet the requirement for the 2006 contract.

2005 Commodity Loan and LDP requests: May 31 is the deadline to request commodity loan or loan deficiency payment on 2005 crop corn, soybeans and grain sorghum. If you had a page 1 of form CCC-633EZ on file prior to harvest or selling of these 2005 crops, you may have earned an LDP. You must provide production evidence in the form of scale

tickets, settlement sheets, or load summaries, and file page 2 of the CCC-633EZ form by May 31 to determine the LDP amount. Soybean LDPs were in effect for October 12th, 24th, 25th, 31st, and November 1st. If you delivered soybeans for sale during one of those days, you may be in line for a small LDP. Significant corn LDPs were in effect during harvest, and up through the end of January, then dwindled as cash prices strengthened. Since then the LDP has been small or nonexistent. Contact the office for more information.

Wheat and Oats acreage reporting: May 31 is the deadline for producers to report the acreage of 2006 wheat, oats and any other small grains that are planted in the county. When reporting, you will need to identify the field, planting date, intended use of the crop, and shares. We will assume all wheat is hard red winter unless reported otherwise.

QUAIL BUFFER PRACTICE RE-OPENED

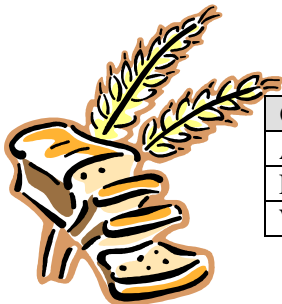
A recent initiative to improve habitat for the Northern Bobwhite Quail and other Upland Birds has resulted in 20,000 acres of Kansas cropland being enrolled into the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP). 20,000 acres was the original acreage allocation for Kansas and has been increased by another 5,000 acres to help fulfill the demand for enrollment into this practice. The enrollment is a non-competitive process. Eligible land must meet cropping requirements, ownership requirements and be planted to an approved vegetative cover. The area enrolled will consist of a 30 to 120 foot strip around the perimeter of a cropland field. The total area of the contract acreage cannot exceed 50% of the original field, and the original field must be at least 5 acres in size. Signup incentive payments equal to \$100 per acre are available. Cost-share is available at 50% of cost to establish the cover with an additional 40% of the cost paid in the form of a practice incentive payment. Signup is ongoing through September of 2007, or until the increased acreage allocation is met.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNTY COMMITTEE

June 15th marks the beginning of the nomination period for county committee elections to be held later this year. The election winner will take office on January 1, 2007 for a 3-year term. Nominations will be accepted through August 1, 2006. Nomination forms (FSA-669A) are available at the county office, or on the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections. For more information, contact our office.

FARM RECORDS CHANGES

Changes to your farming operation can affect your eligibility for program benefits. It is crucial that operation changes be reported to the FSA office as soon as practical to avoid eligibility problems. Reports of purchased, or sold property should be accompanied by a copy of the land deed. Other changes that need reporting include increases in cropland, changes of shares, changes of operator or tenant, etc.



2005 COMMODITY LOAN RATES

County	Corn	Soybeans	Milo	Wheat
Atchison	\$2.04	\$4.98	\$3.47cwt	\$3.03
Leavenworth	2.09	5.13	3.57	3.15
Wyandotte	2.09	5.15	3.47	3.18

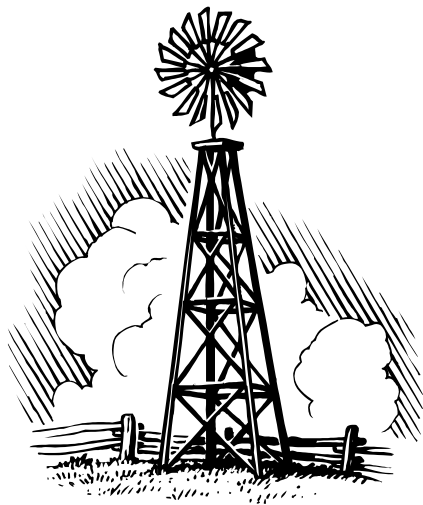
CRP ACREAGE MAINTENANCE

Participants in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining the cover of all CRP acreage in accordance with the written conservation plan of operations. In most all cases, this means that there must be a good stand of the introduced grass, weeds and noxious weeds must not be allowed to produce seed, and brush/trees must be prevented from establishing in the CRP fields. Other concerns include correcting areas where ditches have formed, eliminating travel across CRP that may be causing damage to the grass and leaving the traveled area open to erosion, and maintaining structural practices such as terraces and waterways that may be working in conjunction with the grass stand to prevent erosion. Recent field reviews have shown that brush

invasion on CRP is the most prevalent problem in the county. Smaller brush can be controlled through timely burning of the CRP acreage, or with chemical application. Larger brush must be removed by hand and cannot be left lay on CRP, or pushed into piles on CRP. Keep in mind that the primary nesting season for birds began on April 15th, and will run through July 15th. Corrective action needed after establishment of grass should not take place within the nesting period unless written authorization is provided by this office. Failure to adhere to conservation plan requirements of your CRP contract will result in annual payment reductions, and in more severe cases, termination of the contract with refund of all previously earned rental payments, cost-share, interest and liquidated damages.

REMINDERS**

- Husbands and wives can sign most USDA documents on their spouse's behalf unless a written denial has been placed on file with the FSA office.
- Special accommodations can be made for producers with a handicap, vision impairment, or hearing impairment, by contacting Rick Abel, CED, at 913-833-5460, or 913-682-1085.
- Foreign Investors must report holdings of agricultural land in the U.S. within 90 days from purchase date to avoid assessment of penalties. Foreign investors in Atchison, Leavenworth or Wyandotte county, should contact the county office to complete the appropriate filings.
- The last day to report 2006 plantings of corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, hay and cropland other than small grains is August 1st.
- The FSA Office will be closed on May 29th in observance of Memorial Day, and on July 4th in observance of Independence Day.



FSA Website -- For FSA forms, and the latest on FSA programs, try www.fsa.usda.gov.

The United States Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should con tact USDA's Target Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Bldg., 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington DC, 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (Voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer.